2

4.



CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1	1.	A method comprising:
2		requesting an InfiniBand connectivity configuration;
3		receiving a response regarding whether the requested configuration can be
4		provided; and
5		attempting to establish the requested connectivity configuration if the response to
6		the request is affirmative.
1	2.	The method of claim 1, wherein the requested connectivity configuration is not
2		contained in the specification established for the InfiniBand architecture.
1	3.	The method of claim 1, wherein the requested connectivity configuration is
2		comprised of a plurality of links.

provided using a standard InfiniBand backplane connector.

The method of claim 1, wherein the requested connectivity configuration is

- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said request for a connectivity configuration is 1 2 made by an InfiniBand module to an InfiniBand chassis management entity.
- The method of claim 1, wherein said request for a connectivity configuration is 6. 1 2 made through an InfiniBand management link.

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1	7.	The method of claim 6, wherein said request for a connectivity configuration is
2		written to a first management link configuration register and said response to said
3		request is written to a second management link configuration register.
1	8.	A method comprising:
2		receiving a connectivity configuration request associated with an InfiniBand
3		connector, the configuration request representing an expanded InfiniBand
4		connector configuration including information indicative of one or more
5		desired links to be established through the InfiniBand connector and
6		assigning one or more physical lanes of the InfiniBand connector to each
7		of the one or more desired links; and
8		configuring the InfiniBand connector in accordance with said connectivity
9		configuration request.
1	9.	The method of claim 8, wherein said connectivity configuration request is made
2		by an InfiniBand module and is received by an InfiniBand chassis management
3		entity.
1	10.	The method of claim 8, wherein said expanded InfiniBand connector
2		configuration is not contained in the specification established for the InfiniBand
3		architecture.
1	11.	The method of claim 8, wherein said expanded InfiniBand connector

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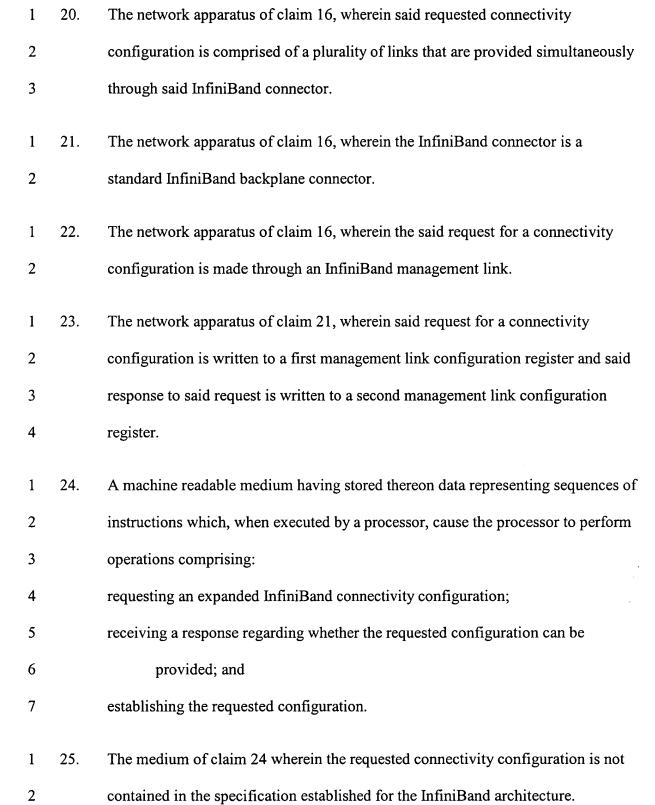
configuration is comprised of a plurality of links.

l	12.	A method comprising:
2		an InfiniBand management link operating to enable the establishment of an
3		InfiniBand connectivity configuration, wherein said management link:
4		records a request for a connectivity configuration made by an InfiniBand
5		module;
6		allows an InfiniBand chassis to obtain said request for a connectivity
7		configuration;
8		records a response from said InfiniBand chassis to said request for a
9		connectivity configuration; and
10		allows said InfiniBand module to obtain said response to said request for a
11		connectivity configuration.
1	13.	The method of claim 12, wherein said request for a connectivity configuration
2		requests an expanded configuration that is not contained in the specification
3		established for the InfiniBand architecture.
1	1.4	
1	14.	The method of claim 12, wherein said request for a connectivity configuration is
2		written to a first management link configuration register and said response is
3		written to a second management link configuration register.
1	15.	The method of claim 12, wherein the requested connectivity configuration is
2		comprised of a plurality of links.
1	16.	A network apparatus comprising:

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2		an InfiniBand connector;
3		an InfiniBand module that is operable to make a request for an expanded
4		connectivity configuration for the InfiniBand connector;
5		a chassis management entity coupled to said InfiniBand module that receives the
6		request for an expanded connectivity configuration for the InfiniBand
7		connector and that provides a response regarding whether the requested
8		configuration can be provided.
1	17.	The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein said requested connectivity
2		configuration is not contained in the specification established for the InfiniBand
3		architecture.
1	18.	The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein the requested connectivity
2		configuration is other than:
3		a single link comprised of a connection to the first pin of a plurality of pins on the
4		InfiniBand connector;
5		a single link comprised of a connection to the first four pins of the plurality of
6	,	pins on the InfiniBand connector; or
7		a single link comprised of a connection to the first twelve pins of the plurality of
8		pins on the InfiniBand connector.
1	19.	The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein said InfiniBand module is operable
2		to establish the requested connectivity configuration if the response to said
3		connectivity request is affirmative.

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- 1 26. The medium of claim 24 wherein the requested connectivity configuration is
- 2 comprised of a plurality of links.

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